

advocates and the diamond industry for making this certification system a reality.

Because of their success, Mr. President, today we are faced with the urgent need of providing legislative measures to enable effective U.S. implementation of the certification scheme. We need to provide the Administration with the authorization necessary to ensure U.S. compliance with this global, regulatory framework. That is why I am here today to introduce legislation that commits the United States to mandatory implementation of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme.

I join my distinguished colleagues, Senators GRASSLEY, DURBIN, FEINGOLD, BINGAMAN, TALENT, and SNOWE, to introduce the "Clean Diamond Trade Act." This legislation is very similar to a measure introduced in the House last week, H.R. 1415. Our bill is very simple. The whole idea behind it is to commit the United States to a system of controls on the export and import of diamonds, so that buyers can be certain that their purchases are not fueling the rebel campaign.

Specifically, our legislation would prohibit the import of any rough diamond that has not been controlled through the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme. Put simply, this means that every diamond brought into the United States would require a certificate of origin and authenticity, indicating that a rebel or terrorist group has not laundered it onto the legitimate market.

Additionally, the bill calls on the President to report annually to Congress on the control system's effectiveness and also requires the General Accounting Office to report on the law's effectiveness within two years of enactment.

Finally, Mr. President, our bill emphasizes that the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme is an ongoing process and that our government should continue to work with the international community to strengthen the effectiveness of this global regulatory framework. As the world's biggest diamond customer—purchasing well over half of the world's diamonds—our nation has a moral responsibility to show continued leadership on this issue.

Quite candidly, there are a lot of things in this world—a lot of terrible, tragic things—that we don't have the power to change or to fix. But today, we can change something. We can make a difference. We have the power to help put an end to the indescribable suffering and violence caused by diamond-related conflicts. We have that power, and we must use it. And so, I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this much-needed legislation.

We have an obligation—a moral responsibility—to help stop the violence, the brutality, the needless killing and maiming. No other child should kill or be killed in diamond-related conflicts.

I believe that it is absolutely imperative that we pass the bill we have introduced quickly and help end these atrocities once and for all.

It is the humane thing to do. It is the right thing to do. It is the only thing to do.

I thank the Chair and yield the Floor.

## SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

### SENATE RESOLUTION 102—RECOGNIZING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SINKING OF THE USS THRESHER (SSN 593)

Mr. SUNUNU (for himself, Mr. GREGG, Ms. SNOWE, and Ms. COLLINS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

#### S. RES. 102

Whereas the USS Thresher was first launched at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard on July 9, 1960;

Whereas the USS Thresher departed Portsmouth Naval Shipyard for her final voyage on April 9, 1963, with a crew of 16 officers, 96 sailors, and 17 civilians;

Whereas the mix of that crew reflects the unity of the naval submarine service, military and civilian, in the protection of the Nation;

Whereas at approximately 7:47 a.m. on April 10, 1963, while in communication with the surface ship USS Skylark, and approximately 300 miles off the coast of New England, the USS Thresher began her final descent;

Whereas the USS Thresher was declared lost with all hands on April 10, 1963;

Whereas from the loss of the USS Thresher, there arose the SUBSAFE program, which has kept United States' submariners safe at sea ever since as the strongest, safest submarine force in history;

Whereas from the loss of the USS Thresher, there arose in our Nation's universities the ocean engineering curricula that enables the United States' preeminence in submarine warfare; and

Whereas the crew of the USS Thresher demonstrated the "last full measure of devotion" in service to this Nation, and this devotion characterizes the sacrifices of all submariners, past and present: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the 40th Anniversary of the sinking of the USS Thresher;

(2) remembers with profound sorrow the loss of the USS Thresher and her gallant crew of sailors and civilians on April 10, 1963; and

(3) expresses its deepest gratitude to all submariners on "eternal patrol", who are forever bound together by their dedicated and honorable service to the United States of America.

#### SEC. 2. TRANSMISSION OF RESOLUTION.

The Secretary of the Senate shall transmit a copy of this resolution to the Chief of Naval Operations and to the Commanding Officer of the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard to be accepted on behalf of the families and shipmates of the crew of the USS Thresher.

## AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED & PROPOSED

SA 434. Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. GRAHAM, of South Carolina, Mr.

CHAMBLISS, Mr. CRAIG, and Mr. MILLER) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 718, to provide a monthly allotment of free telephone calling time to members of the United States armed forces stationed outside the United States who are directly supporting military operations in Iraq or Afghanistan.

## TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

**SA 434.** Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. CRAIG, and Mr. MILLER) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 718, to provide a monthly allotment of free telephone calling time to members of the United States armed forces stationed outside the United States who are directly supporting military operations in Iraq or Afghanistan; as follows:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Troops Phone Home Free Act of 2003".

#### SEC. 2. PURPOSE.

It is the purpose of this Act to support the morale of the brave men and women of the United States armed services stationed outside the United States who are directly supporting military operations in Iraq or Afghanistan (as determined by the Secretary of Defense) by giving them the ability to place calls to their loved ones without expense to them.

#### SEC. 3. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds the following:

(1) The armed forces of the United States are the finest in the world.

(2) The members of the armed services are bravely placing their lives in danger to protect the security of the people of the United States and to advance the cause of freedom in Iraq.

(3) Their families and loved ones are making sacrifices at home in support of the members of the armed services abroad.

(4) Telephone contact with family and friends provides significant emotional and psychological support to them and helps to sustain and improve morale.

#### SEC. 4. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TELECOMMUNICATIONS BENEFIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—As soon as possible after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall provide, wherever practicable, prepaid phone cards, or an equivalent telecommunications benefit which includes access to telephone service, to members of the armed forces stationed outside the United States who are directly supporting military operations in Iraq or Afghanistan (as determined by the Secretary) to enable them to make telephone calls to family and friends in the United States without cost to the member.

(b) MONTHLY AMOUNT.—The value of the benefit provided by subsection (a) shall not exceed \$40 per month per person.

(c) END OF PROGRAM.—The program established by subsection (a) shall terminate on the date that is 60 days after the date on which the Secretary determines that Operation Iraqi Freedom has ended.

(d) FUNDING.—

(1) USE OF EXISTING RESOURCES.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall maximize the use of existing Department of Defense telecommunications programs and capabilities, private support organizations, private entities offering free or reduced-cost services, and programs to enhance morale and welfare.

(2) USE OF APPROPRIATED FUNDS.—In addition to resources described in paragraph (1)